Demands of School Teachers in Delhi

*109. SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE:
SHRI KAILASH PATI MISHRA:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Delhi Administration Government Schools' Teachers Association has recently submitted any memorandum to the Prime Minister, listing their demands; if so, what are the details thereof;

(b) what is Government's response thereto;

(c) whether Government propose to allow selection grade to all the teachers, irrespective of percentage after 25 years of service and a single running-scale for the primary school teachers in Delhi; and

(d) what is the number of vacancies of teachers of various categories at present and the time-schedule to fill the same?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTER OF STATE IN DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (PROF. M. G. K. MENON): (a) to (d) A Statement is laid on the Table of the Sabha. [*See* Appendix CLIII, Annexure No. 33].

Involvement of India in the Mars Exploration

*110. SHRI SURENDRA SINGH THAKUR: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) has expressed its keenness for involvement of India in Mars Exploration, as reported in the *Hindustan Times*, dated March 9, 1990;

(b) if so, what are the details of such proposed involvement; and

(c) if the answer to part (a) above be in the negative, in what manner Government propose to associate with the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) in Mars Exploration and related scientific discoveries and researches for advancement of Indian Space Programmes and technology?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTER OF STATE IN DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (PROF. M. G. K. MENON): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) According to available information, National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) of USA has initiated a number of studies to plan for a possible manned mission to Mars by the year 2015 with a view to creating a permanent base and eventual colonisation of Mars for scientific exploration of the solar system. India's own programme is primarily oriented towards indigenous design and development of satellites and launch vehicles for practical applications in the areas of communication, meteorology and remote sensing of earth's resources in order to harness space technology for the benefit of the people. ISRO is, however, fully aware of the need to keep abreast of developments and in this regard active dialogue is going on between Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) and National Aeronautics & Space Administration (NASA) for exploring new areas of cooperation.